

## PARK SHAKE-UP COMING

Stover Orders Examination of 700 Men, Through Fosdick.

## DISMISSELS WILL FOLLOW

May Abolish Observatory, Retire Menagerie Director and Reduce Superintendent.

Following a long conference of Park Commissioner Stover and Raymond B. Fosdick, Commissioner of Accounts, yesterday afternoon at the Arsenal, in Central Park, it was learned that the whole laboring force of the Park Department, numbering more than seven hundred men, would be subjected to an examination for efficiency. It was also learned that John H. Beatty, at present Superintendent of Parks, but whose resignation has been requested by Commissioner Stover, would be offered a place as assistant superintendent.

To conduct the examination of the laboring force, the foremen included, Commissioner Fosdick has placed one of his men (Mr. Hiltz) in charge of the laboring force for the next thirty days. The men will be summoned individually, and where it is shown there is incompetency such incompetents will be dismissed at once.

The purpose of this investigation, it was said, was to relieve a condition bordering on a "hopeless sag" in the working efficiency of the laboring force.

It is probable, when the thorough investigation of the Park Department is completed, that it will also be recommended to Commissioner Stover that John Smith, the aged director of the Central Park menagerie, who receives a salary of \$3,000 a year, be retired on half pay. It may also be recommended that the meteorological observatory in the Arsenal be done away with in view of the expense to the city from its maintenance and because the federal observatory in this city "covers the same ground." It was said in the department yesterday that it cost \$5,000 or more a year to maintain it.

That part of the report dealing with the job of superintendent of supplies and repairs, held for many years by the late Charles Woodman, it will be advised by the examiners of the Commissioner of Accounts that this place be abolished and the salary, which is \$4,000, be used to augment the Park Department clerical force with two or three clerks.

When Commissioner Fosdick was asked by Commissioner Stover to make an investigation of the Park Department no one besides the Park Commissioners knew how far it would extend. Last night officials of the department, when informed of the action to be taken regarding the laboring force, said it was the only time in the history of the department that such a shake-up had been instituted.

"But it will be a healthy shake-up," said one official. "The laboring force, as well as other branches of the department, has got in a rut."

Although Commissioner Stover would not discuss the possible transfer of Superintendent Beatty to assistant superintendent, it was believed that such a course would be pursued, and that Mr. Beatty would accept. In view of the statement of Commissioner Stover earlier in the week that there "were three or four ways" of settling the Beatty matter, this was looked on as one of the three or four to be acceptable to all concerned.

The weather observatory in the Arsenal preceded any of the federal observatories, and the instruments used were invented by Professor Draper, who is still in charge. Its observations have been used by the city in a number of important lawsuits in which weather statistics were of much value in the determination of evidence.

## LEASES.

Lawrence & Wolff have rented for Mrs. Maud C. A. Mills No. 109 East 56th street to Mrs. George B. Cushman, of Cambridge, Mass.

Leon S. Altman has leased for Hannah Mendes for a term of years the three story and basement dwelling house, No. 9 Henderson Place. The tenant is Maximilian Henn.

Samuel H. Martin has leased for William C. Orr, trustee for the Philida estate, the four story and basement dwelling house No. 14 West 27th street, to Frederick James Cooper.

## THE PRIVATE SALES MARKET.

MANHATTAN.

125TH STREET.—John R. & Oscar L. Foley have sold for the Paterno Contracting Company the apartment house known as Senior Arms, at Nos. 533 and 535 West 125th street, an eight story structure, on plot 50x100 feet.

The buyer in the present deal is an investor.

FIFTH AVENUE.—Joseph F. Day has sold for Florence T. Danis No. 109 Fifth avenue, a four story dwelling house, on lot 2089-91, 11th street, between Fifth and Lenox avenues. It is opposite the home of Astor descendants.

CATHEDRAL PARKWAY.—Frederick J. Lindle, a real estate broker, sold the plot 125x100 feet, on the north side of Cathedral Parkway, 250 feet east of Lenox Avenue. The purchaser will build a residence there.

ST. CATHERINE'S.—A portion of a plot 125x100 feet recently purchased by the sellers at the auction sale of the Finkley estate, on

125th Street, Bernard Mass is re-

presented by Wm. W. Astor Jr., to buy a four story dwelling house, on lot 2089-91, 11th street, between Fifth and Lenox avenues. It is opposite the home of Astor descendants.

LEONX AVENUE.—Arnold, Burns & Baum have sold for Israel Hoffman to Herman Hirsch, 105 West 10th street, each a three story and basement dwelling house, on plot 575-576 feet, between 117th and 118th streets.

AMSTERDAM AVENUE.—Alexander Clinch recently bought the plot 125x125 feet, at the northeast corner of Amsterdam Avenue and West End Avenue, from the Finkley estate, on plot 50x100 feet, recently purchased by the buyers from the Merritt Realty Company of the plot 20x100 feet, and the latter 24x100 feet, which will be resold to a builder for improvement.

ST. CATHERINE'S.—Sterling Steeling has sold her parcel 125x125 feet, on plot 20x100 feet, 11th street, between 117th and 118th streets.

TO SELL OLD LANDMARK.

An historic landmark will be sold by the Real Estate Exchange salesrooms by Samuel Marx on June 1. He will offer at auction the property No. 10 Broad street. Here the Sons of Liberty, who afterward called themselves the Liberty Boys, organized in 1766.

TEL-ELECTRIC COMPANY BUYS.

Nicholson & Co. have sold to the Tel-Electric Piano Player Company a factory plant in Pittsfield, Mass., formerly belonging to the Alden-Sampson Manufacturing Company. The property consists of three large brick buildings and covers about seven acres.

RECORDED LEASES.

(With name and address of lessor.)

ALEXANDER AVENUE.—151, store and basement; Peter Estate to John Vadas; 3 yrs from May 1, 1911; \$600; address, 151 Alexander ave.

BROADWAY.—219, car store and basement; the 7th Street and Broadway Co. to Adolph Deans; from Oct 1, 1910; \$2,000; address, 219 Broadway.

LEONX AVENUE.—477, store and basement; Abram Friedman to Henry Marlinson and wife, 8 Union Place; 3 yrs from May 1, 1911; \$2,000; address, 477 Leonx Ave.

UNION AVENUE.—304, store and basement; Ernest O. Howell to Frank J. Gilsey; 3 yrs from Sept 1, 1911; \$2,000; address, 704 Union Ave.

WYTHE AVENUE.—James A. Kearney has sold from Moses Mitzgar the dwelling house No. 1314 Wythe Avenue, a three story and basement dwelling house, for the Meshan Construction Company, to a client for company.

RECORDED LEASSES.

(With name and address of lessee.)

JOHN ST.—151, store and basement; Peter Estate to John Vadas; 3 yrs from May 1, 1911; \$600; address, 151 Alexander ave.

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